

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A tape mounting system for mounting a bag containing a product to a tape, comprising:

a tape holding mechanism that is configured to hold ~~holds~~ the tape substantially horizontally and conveys the tape in a substantially horizontal direction;

a mounting mechanism that is configured to mount ~~mounts~~ the bag product to the tape by attaching a portion of the bag product to the tape; and

a control unit ~~means~~ operatively coupled to said tape holding mechanism and said mounting mechanism and configured to control ~~for controlling~~ said tape holding mechanism and said mounting mechanism such that the portion of the bag product vertically overlaps the tape while the portion of the bag product is attached to the tape, and that the tape holding mechanism conveys the bag attached to the tape in the substantially horizontal direction.

2. (Original) The tape mounting system as recited in Claim 1, wherein the tape is made of a material that is more flexible than a material of which the product is made.

3. (Currently Amended) The tape mounting system as recited in Claim 1, wherein

said mounting mechanism has a heater, and

said mounting mechanism is configured to attach ~~attaches~~ the portion of the bag product to the tape by heating said heater.

4. (Currently Amended) The tape mounting system as recited in Claim 1, wherein

said mounting mechanism has a pressing member, and

said control ~~means~~ unit is configured to control ~~controls~~ said pressing member to press the portion of the bag product toward said tape holding mechanism, such that the portion of the bag product and the tape vertically overlap while the portion of the bag product is attached to the tape.

5. (Currently Amended) The tape mounting system as recited in Claim 1, wherein

the tape is rendered adhesive at least at a part to which the portion of the bag product is attached, ~~[[;]]~~ and

said mounting mechanism is configured to attach ~~attaches~~ the portion of the bag product to the tape by pressing the portion against the tape.

6. (Currently Amended) The tape mounting system as recited in Claim 1, wherein

said mounting mechanism further includes an adhesive application device that applies an adhesive substance to the tape, and

said mounting mechanism is configured to attach ~~attaches~~ the portion of the bag product to the tape via the adhesive substance.

7. (Currently Amended) The tape mounting system as recited in Claim 1, further comprising:

a product placing mechanism that is configured to place ~~places~~ the product onto said mounting mechanism,

said control ~~means~~ unit being configured to control ~~controlling~~ said product placing mechanism such that the portion of the bag product vertically overlaps the tape while the portion of the bag product is attached to the tape.

8. (Currently Amended) The tape mounting system as recited in Claim 1, further comprising:

a product transport mechanism that is configured to transport ~~transports~~ the bag product toward said mounting mechanism.

9. (Original) The tape mounting system as recited in Claim 8, wherein said product transport mechanism and said tape holding mechanism are spaced apart in a width direction.

10. (Original) The tape mounting system as recited in Claim 8, wherein said product transport mechanism and said tape holding mechanism are spaced apart in the vertical direction.

11. (Currently Amended) The tape mounting system as recited in Claim 7, wherein said product placing mechanism has a grasping member that is configured to grasp ~~grasps~~ the ~~bag product~~, or a suction member that is configured to hold ~~holds~~ the ~~bag product~~ by suction.

12. (Currently Amended) The tape mounting system as recited in Claim 7, further comprising:
a product transfer mechanism that is configured to transfer ~~transfers~~ said product placing mechanism toward said mounting mechanism.

13. (Currently Amended) The tape mounting system as recited in Claim 12, wherein said product transfer mechanism has a product orientation change mechanism that is configured to change ~~changes~~ an orientation of the ~~bag product~~.

14. (Currently Amended) The tape mounting system as recited in Claim 7, wherein said product placing mechanism is configured to apply ~~applies~~ pressure to the ~~bag product~~, such that said control unit ~~means~~ performs a seal check of the ~~bag product~~.

15. (Currently Amended) The tape mounting system as recited in Claim 12, further comprising:

an imaging unit means that is configured to produce ~~produces~~ an image signal of the bag product before the bag product is mounted onto the tape; and

said control unit is configured to control ~~means-controls~~ said product transfer mechanism based on the image signal from said imaging unit means.

16. (Currently Amended) The tape mounting system as recited in Claim 8, wherein

said product transport mechanism is configured to transport ~~transports~~ the bag product that is discharged from a packaging machine which produces bag product by packaging articles.

17. (Currently Amended) The tape mounting system as recited in Claim 8, wherein

said tape holding mechanism is disposed in a linearly extended manner from said product transport mechanism and is ~~are~~ spaced apart from the product transport mechanism in the vertical direction.

18. (Currently Amended) The tape mounting system as recited in Claim 4, wherein

said mounting mechanism has a heater, and

said control unit is configured to control ~~controls~~ said pressing member such that said pressing member and said heater sandwich the portion of the bag product and the tape to attach them together.

19. (Currently Amended) The tape mounting system as recited in Claim 7, wherein

said product placing mechanism further includes a weight detection unit configured to detect ~~means for detecting~~ a weight of the product.

Appl. No. 10/779,662

Amendment dated January 23, 2006

Reply to Office Action of October 3, 2005 and Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment of January 17, 2006

20. (Currently Amended) The tape mounting system as recited in Claim 14,
wherein

said control unit is configured to control ~~means controls~~ said product placing
mechanism to place the bag product onto said mounting mechanism only if the bag product is
not a defective bag product based on the seal check.